

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Second Office Action dated September 10, 2008, which has a shortened statutory period set to expire December 10, 2008. A Petition for a one-month extension of time extending the period of response to January 10, 2009 is filed herewith.

Applicant addresses the objection to Claim 57

Claim 57, as amended herein, now recites in part, "A client for receiving the start time slot list". Based on the amendment to Claim 57, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to Claim 57.

Applicant addresses the rejection of Claim 57 under 112

Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 57 contains subject matter that was described in the Specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention. Paragraph 0012 refers to one exemplary technique. Notably, Applicant's Specification describes various techniques. For example, the recited technique/client of Claim 57 is described in paragraphs 0027 and 0028 (see also FIG. 4). Because one skilled in the art could make/use a client that selects between a high-priority start time slot and a low-priority start time slot based on a randomizing function, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 57.

Claims 50, 53, 57, and 61 are patentable over Jayaraman and Siloti

Claim 50 recites (emphasis added):

A method of minimizing collisions in a CSMA/CA wireless data communication system using an access point, the method comprising:

- sensing the presence of a client desirous of communication with the access point;

- allocating a start time slot list having at least one unique start time slot during which the client may begin transmitting;

- transmitting the start time slot list to the client; and

- receiving a transmission from the client, the transmission beginning only during the start time slot(s) indicated by the start time slot list,

- wherein allocating includes:

- assigning at least one pair of a high-priority start time slot and a low-priority start time slot substantially equally displaced in time from a center start time slot.**

Applicant respectfully submits that Jayaraman and Siloti fail to disclose or suggest the recited assigning. The Examiner admits that Jayaraman teaches nothing about a pair of time slots, wherein the pair includes a high-priority start time slot and a low-priority start time slot.

To remedy this deficiency of Jayaraman, the Examiner cites Siloti. Specifically, the Examiner cites col. 2, lines 39-49 and FIG. 3 as teaching the recited high-priority and low-priority start time slots. Applicant respectfully traverses this characterization.

Siloti explicitly teaches that a "particular node is assigned a particular time slot N, such as time slot 4 as shown in FIG. 3. A particular node will be able to transmit a request for control of the bus at its time slot N in either the high or the low band depending upon the current priority for that node." Col. 2, lines 41-45. Therefore, Siloti fails to teach anything about assigning a high-priority start time slot and a low-priority start time slot substantially equally displaced in time from a center start time slot.

Because the Jayaraman and Siloti fail to disclose or suggest **assigning at least one pair of a high-priority start time slot and a low-priority start time slot substantially equally displaced in time from a center start time slot**, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 50.

Claim 53 recites (emphasis added):

A method of minimizing collisions in a CSMA/CA wireless data communication system using an access point, the method comprising:
sensing the presence of a client desirous of communication with the access point;
allocating a start time slot list having at least one unique start time slot during which the client may begin transmitting;
transmitting the start time slot list to the client; and
receiving a transmission from the client, the transmission beginning only during the start time slot(s) indicated by the start time slot list,
wherein the start time slot list includes a high-priority time slot and a low-priority time slot substantially equally displaced in time from a center time slot.

Therefore, Claim 53 is patentable for substantially the same reasons presented for Claim 50. Based on those reasons, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 53.

Claim 57 depends from Claim 53 and therefore is patentable for at least the reasons presented for Claim 53. Based on those reasons, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 57.

Claim 61 recites (emphasis added):

An access point that minimizes collisions in a CSMA/CA wireless data communication system, the access point comprising:

- a client sensor for detecting the presence of a client desirous of communication with the access point;

- a start time slot allocator for allocating a start time slot list having one or more unique start time slots during which the client may begin to transmit;

- an access point transmitter for transmitting the start time slot list to a client receiver; and

- an access point receiver for receiving a transmission from the client, the transmission being received only during the start time slot(s) indicated by the start time slot list,

- wherein the start time slot allocator comprises:

- a start time slot generator for generating at least one pair of a high-priority time slot and a low-priority start time slot, the high-priority time slot and the low-priority start time slot substantially equally displaced in time from a center start time slot.**

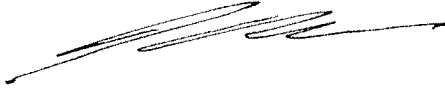
Therefore, Claim 61 is patentable for substantially the same reasons presented for Claim 50. Based on those reasons, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 61.

CONCLUSION

Claims 50, 53, 57, and 61 are pending in the present application. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions, please telephone the undersigned at 408-451-5907 to expedite prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,



Customer No.: 30547

Jeanette S. Harms
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 35,537